

AN ACT

relating to the prioritization of requests to release certain case records maintained by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 264, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 264.0145 to read as follows:

Sec. 264.0145. RELEASE OF CASE RECORD. (a) In this section, "case record" means those files, reports, records, communications, audiotapes, videotapes, or working papers under the custody and control of the department that are collected, developed, or used:

(1) in a child abuse or neglect investigation; or

(2) in providing services as a result of an investigation, including substitute care services for a child.

(b) The department by rule shall establish guidelines that prioritize requests to release case records, including those made by an adult previously in the department's managing conservatorship.

(c) The department is not required to release a copy of the case record except as provided by law and department rule.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

H.B. No. 3234

David Newkirk

President of the Senate

Joe Straus

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3234 was passed by the House on April 20, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 7, 2 present, not voting.

Robert Haney

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3234 was passed by the Senate on May 18, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Daisy Spaw

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

17 JUN '11

Date

RICK PERRY

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
4:00 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 17 2011

Bob McDevitt

Secretary of State